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SECURITY INFORMATION

APR 11 1952

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant, Intelligence
Department of State

ATTENTION: Director
Office of Libraries and Intelligence Acquisition

SUBJECT: State Cable from London, No. 4465, dated 7 April 1952

1. With reference to paragraph 1 in the above cable, the CIA estimate (ME-88) of USSR synthetic rubber production of 197,000 tons in 1952-53 agrees substantially with the estimate contained in the State contribution to the NIE-40 Working Group, dated 20 November 1951. This estimate was agreed to on the working level by ORR analysts. The slight difference is due to the use of the mid-1953 rate of production instead of an interpolated average for the year. The estimate of 172,000 tons quoted in the cable as the NIE-40 estimate is for the year 1951 and, therefore, is not the estimated production for the year 1952-53. Moreover, ME-88 specifically mentioned an increase in synthetic capacity of approximately 30,000 tons during 1951. The estimate by ORR of 220,000 to 270,000 tons for 1950 (Soviet Areas, ORR Report No. 4800.27), referred to in the cable, is dated March 1951 and was thought by ORR to have been superseded by subsequent estimates. The coordinated estimates prepared in connection with NIE-40 are dated 20 November 1951.

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Paragraph 1 of the cable is not easy to understand how an analyst, under the time pressure involved in ME-88, did not have time to ponder fully the nuances of this somewhat fuzzy language.

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3. With reference to paragraph 3, CIA is not in position to comment on any intelligence furnished Mr. Armstrong by other agencies which it has not had the opportunity to review. As applied to this Office's MP-88, the paragraph seems to me unwarranted.

/s/

ROBERT AMORY, JR.
Assistant Director
Research and Reports

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D/A/RR: [REDACTED] :pph

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